02-277

25 June 2003

Michael Powell, Chair Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> St SW Washington, DC 20554 On Head 166 (1 - 2003)

Distribution Center

FCC - MAIL PC

Dear Mr. Powell:

I am writing on behalf of a many United States citizens who are very concerned with the FCC's proposal to deregulate the rules on limiting ownership of media.

Thirty years ago, most newspapers were independently, locally or regionally owned. Today, out of 1500 daily newspapers in the U.S., only 281 remain independent. The three largest publishers account for 25 percent of all daily newspaper circulation. This dramatically effects content and information distribution.

In 1996, before Congress relaxed radio ownership limits, the two largest companies owned 115 radio stations. Today, these two companies own 1,451 radio stations. The top twenty-five radio ownership groups control 24.9 percent of the nation's commercial stations, and take in 59 percent of all advertising revenue. This consolidation has effected everything from the play list of individual radio stations to the local news reports being offered.

Greater consolidation in radio and other media outlets will further undermine every person's access to independent, local media. Independent media provides the public with dissemination of information important to our lives and communities. Removing the last vestiges of public control over media content and placing it in the hands of corporate media would be a disgrace to this Republic and this country which espouses democracy! We oppose deregulation of the rules limiting ownership of media.

Thank you,

Robin Irish

2559 Emerald St

Eugene, OR 97403

02-277



Confirmed

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Distribution Center

Wednesday, June 18, 2003

To: Michael K. Powell

Chairman, FCC 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Mr. Powell,

I am fully aware of the fact that this letter will never reach your desk, but nonetheless I feel compelled to at least add it to the mountain of others you have received on this topic. That, of course, would be the FCC's recent decision to allow a greater market share for local media powerhouses. There is already precious little choice for local news programming, and the public interest is not well-served by the decision to roll back sensible regulations designed to prevent market domination. It is my sincere hope that this commission will bow to justly applied pressure, both public and congressional, and reverse its decision.

Respectfully,

Eric L. Johnson

4108 Kincaid Drive

Raleigh, North Carolina



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DEAR CHAIRMAN POWELL,

I've known about your plans to further derequente the public air wayes for some time. I just recently got your address onto decided to use this apportunity to register by dissent.

I'm disquited by your standass sell-out to the kargest redia tyrooms. You have been entrusted with a Sacrid duty to protect and defend the interests of all Americans. You must insure that our already overly-concertrated (and increasingly ineffective) hedia markets are not allowed to further defenierate. It one time or another, Rebelley, (or some few of them) had a vision of stewardship to preserve to protect our access to a variety of artlets for independent trigonus journalism: key to democracy. Trimpich independent trigonus journalism: key to democracy. Trimpich